

St James the
Great
Roman Catholic
Voluntary Aided
Primary & Nursery
School
Thornton Heath



Wizard Of Oz Production 2001

Governors Annual

Report to Parents Academic Year 2000/2001

Mission Statement

Our school, as a place of learning, belongs to the parish communities of Thornton Heath and Norbury and exists to educate the children of the community with the Gospel values, traditions and beliefs of the Catholic Faith at the centre of its ethos, while recognising and understanding the individuality of the faith journey.

Taking account of National Curriculum requirements, the School will provide a framework within which all pupils are enabled to develop the highest possible level of achievement, fulfilling their academic, moral, physical and spiritual potential.

The School will foster a respect for self and others in a climate of tolerance of individual differences, whilst recognising the importance of striving for excellence and enhancing children's transition to responsible adulthood.

Year Six at The London Eye



Following is a copy of the Governors Annual Report on the affairs of the school together with the audited school income and expenditure account as prepared by the external auditors' for the period ended 31 March 2001. An agenda is attached with a copy of the minutes of the last AGM for formal presentation at the Annual Governors and Parents Meeting to be held on 14th November 2001 at 7.30 p.m.

The statutory purpose of the meeting is to enable parents to discuss:

- a) the report and how the governing body, the head and the LEA have discharged their functions in relation to the school;
- b) the school's aims and values;
- c) how pupils' spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development is to be promoted at the school;
- d) how the pupils are to be prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life and citizenship;
- e) how the governing body is to promote the pupils' good behaviour, discipline and well-being.

The Governors can be contacted through:



Chair of Governors

Rev. Fr. Michael Jones
159 Ellison Road
Norbury
London SW16 5DE
Tel:- 020 8679 3545

Clerk to the Governors

To be appointed
% St. James the Great School
Windsor Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey CR7 8HJ

INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

Once again I am delighted to write a few words as a preface to the Governors' Annual Report to Parents. This has been a very good year for the school and I will just highlight some of the more important points.

During the year the school was awarded Beacon Status, an Improvement Award and then, more recently, the Basic Skills Quality Mark. The Governors congratulate the whole staff, parents and pupils. These awards are not given lightly and behind them stretches an ocean of hard work and commitment. We are fortunate in our teaching and support staff. There is both stability and a healthy moving on each year of staff members. As I go around the school as a chaplain I am impressed by the high standard of behaviour and concentration in all classes, especially the infant classes and nursery.

For the first time we had to put into operation performance management for the Headteacher. This was something new and the Governors chosen responded admirably to their task. As Chairman I wish to record my appreciation for all the hard work of our Governors and for their support. We are very fortunate to have such a committed responsible and skilled group of people.

During the year preparations were made both for the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the building of St James the Great school and the building of the Oratory. I thank all those who have been involved in this project – it came to a wonderful fruition at the beginning of the new school year.

One of the greatest strengths of the school is its Catholic ethos, displayed in so many ways. I hope that you agree that St James the Great is a joyful school. The school offers the children a broad curriculum and many extra-curricular activities. I am grateful to you, the parents, for the many ways in which you help your children. Many of you offer your services with reading, school outings and sports. A special word of thanks must go to the Friends Association who must be the envy of many schools. We thank Trevor Berry for his wonderful support during his nine years as chairman of the association.

All the points I have mentioned have been very positive ones. I am aware, however, that no school is perfect and we are always looking to strengthen areas and respond to any matters that cause concern.

Finally, on behalf of the Governors, I offer my congratulations to Stephen Beck, our Headteacher, who by his total commitment and happy disposition sets the tone of the school. He is of course, part of a team which includes the two Assistant Head Teachers, Mrs Vassallo and Mrs Mascarenhas, and the whole staff. I would also like to thank John Butler, our Clerk, for his seven years of service. We are now in the process of appointing a new Clerk.

Rev Father M Jones
Chairman of Governors

THE GOVERNORS

The following is a list of all the Governors, the category under which they serve and details of their tenure:

Fr M Jones	Foundation Governor (Chairman)	31 August 2003
Mrs A Scowcroft	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Fr J O'Toole	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mr S Beck	Headteacher Governor	<i>ex officio</i>
Mr T Berry	Parent Governor	31 December 2001
Mr F Butler	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mrs T Cefai	Teacher Governor	31 August 2005
Mrs C Conte	LEA Governor	31 August 2003
Mr R Gonsalves	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mr C Hart	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mrs D Lawless	Non Teaching Staff Governor	31 August 2003
Mrs E Macadam	Parent Governor	31 December 2001
Mr A Mills	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mr J Palframan	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mr S Pollock	LEA Governor	31 December 2003
Mrs E Williamson	Foundation Governor	31 August 2003
Mrs L Mascarenhas	Observer	
Mrs I Vassallo	Observer	

Parent Governor Elections

We would record our gratitude to Mr Trevor Berry and Mrs Elaine Macadam for their service as parent Governors. Their term of office comes to an end in December 2001 and as they no longer have children at the school they are no longer eligible to stand in the capacity of parent Governor. It will be necessary to hold elections to fill these posts and we hope all parents will give serious consideration to putting themselves forward for election. Self nomination papers will be issued and any election conducted prior to the Christmas break to enable the new parent Governors to be in a position to take up their Governors role in the new year.

Those considering standing for election may be interested to note that the Governing Body is a body of collective responsibility with no Governor acting independently. Whichever category a Governor serves under they act in a representative capacity and are free to form their own judgement on issues as they are serving as representatives not delegates.

THE STAFF

The Governors wish to extend their thanks to all staff at St James the Great for their hard work in making 2000/2001 another successful year.

This year saw the first year of operation of the school with two Assistant Headteachers (KS1 and KS2) rather than a single Deputy Headteacher. This arrangement for school management has proved very effective and the Governors have now confirmed this staffing structure. We would record our thanks to Mrs Vassallo and Mrs Mascarenhas for their very hard work in these roles. It is our view that with the Headteacher they form a strong leadership team for our school.

In addition to Mrs Tuck's departure (reported under the Special Needs section of our report) the end of the 2000/2001 academic year saw two other teaching staff departures, Mrs Winkworth who moved to a new teaching post at St Joseph's Infant School, Croydon, and Mrs Rose Hannon who undertook a family relocation to Ireland. Parents will be aware that the school was fortunate to be able to recruit Miss Rebecca Hughes and Mrs Eileen Davis to the staff thereby securing a full class based teaching complement. It is pleasing to note that Mrs Alley and Mrs Davis have formed a very strong job sharing partnership in Year One and contribute successfully to what the Governors believe is one of the school's strongest teaching complements.

From the staffing list below parents will note that there have been some rearrangements in regard to responsibilities which has ensured all areas are covered. Governors will maintain an overview on this to ensure as equitable a distribution of responsibilities as possible. In addition to being commended in BT's National Teaching Awards Mrs Cefai was awarded, following an in depth assessment, the status of Advanced Skills Teacher (ICT). Her nomination was supported by the Local Authority who, with the school, recognised her achievement in the area of ICT. We remain highly appreciative of all the work undertaken by staff over and above their contractual responsibilities.

The following list of staff is for the academic year 2001/2002.

Mr Stephen Beck MSc BA Cert Ed	Headteacher	
	Responsible for:	Class:
Mrs H Alley Cert Ed, BEd (Hons)	(0.4)	1.2
Mrs P Bell GGSMS, PGCE	Music, pastoral care, discipline	3.2
Mrs M Berkeley-Agyepong BA, PGCE	Physical education, residential trips, outdoor education	4.2
Miss V Berry BA (Hons), PGCE	Geography	4.1
Mrs T Cefai Cert Ed, AST	ICT and DT	6.1
Mrs E Davis BA (Hons) PGCE	(0.6)	1.2
Mrs J Day BEd (Hons)	RE, Assessment (data analysis), Library	2.2
Mrs S Forward Cert Ed	Key stage 1 Music	R2
Miss R Hughes BA (Hons) with QTS	NQT	R1
Miss S Kelsall NNEB, ADCE	Nursery Manager and Inset Admin.	Nursery
Mrs T Lawlor BA (Hons) PGCE	History	3.1
Mrs L Mascarenhas Cert Ed	Assistant Head KS1 & Language	2.1
Mrs I McGillycuddy BA (Hons) PGCE	Drama (whole school)	1.1
Mrs C Murphy BA (Hons) PGCE	Mathematics/PHSE/Sec liaison	6.2
Mrs T Scott Cree BA(Hons) with QTS	Art	5.2
Mrs I Vassallo BEd (Hons), Dip Dr, Dip RE, ACP	Assistant Head KS2 & Science	5.1
Mrs R Speight	Key Stage 2 Music	

Nursery Nurses

Ms S Nichols NNEB, ADCE (currently on maternity leave)

Nursery class staff

Miss S Church NNEB (Nursery Nurse)

Mrs V Gill (0.5) (Learning Support Assistant)

Mrs B Wentworth (0.5) (Learning Support Assistant)

Learning support assistants (LSAs)

Mrs K McGuire (0.5)	2.2
Mrs S Sierra (0.5)	2.1
Mrs G Grabiec	1.2
Mrs A Pollock	1.1
Mrs M Mowbray (0.5)	R2
Mrs J Kavanagh (0.5)	R2
Mrs M Douch	R1
Mrs R Faik	6.2
Mrs D Lawless (STAC) (qualified first aider)	6.1
Mrs S Reynolds	Years 3, 4 and 5

Pupil support assistants (PSAs - special needs support)

Mrs S Barrett	1.2	Mrs M Elliot	R2
Mrs I D'Aranjo	4.2	Mrs J Abrams	R2
Mrs J Kavanagh	3.1	Mrs D Sullivan	4.2
Mrs J Nedd	5.1	Mrs L Lands	R2

Non-Teaching Staff

Mrs M Marchant	Personal Assistant to the Headteacher
Mrs P Spinks	Senior Administrative Officer (Finance)
Mrs H Stock	Admissions Secretary (Part-time)
Mrs M Mowbray	Clerical Assistant (Part-time) and Senior Mid-day Supervisor
Mr R Dodd	Premises Officer
Mrs S Williams	Catering Manageress
Mrs L Tomlinson	Assistant Catering Manageress

In addition to the above staff, the school employs 12 school meal supervisory assistants.



ADMISSIONS AND ATTENDANCE

Applications for places at the school remain very buoyant and the Governors' Admissions Committee has again faced the problem of receiving excess applications for the 60 places on offer in the main school. The pressure on Nursery places has lessened. The Admissions Committee worked strenuously to ensure our published criteria were applied fairly. They were greatly helped in this task by the clergy of both parishes who have instituted very clear procedures for parents to follow to assist the applications process to Catholic schools.

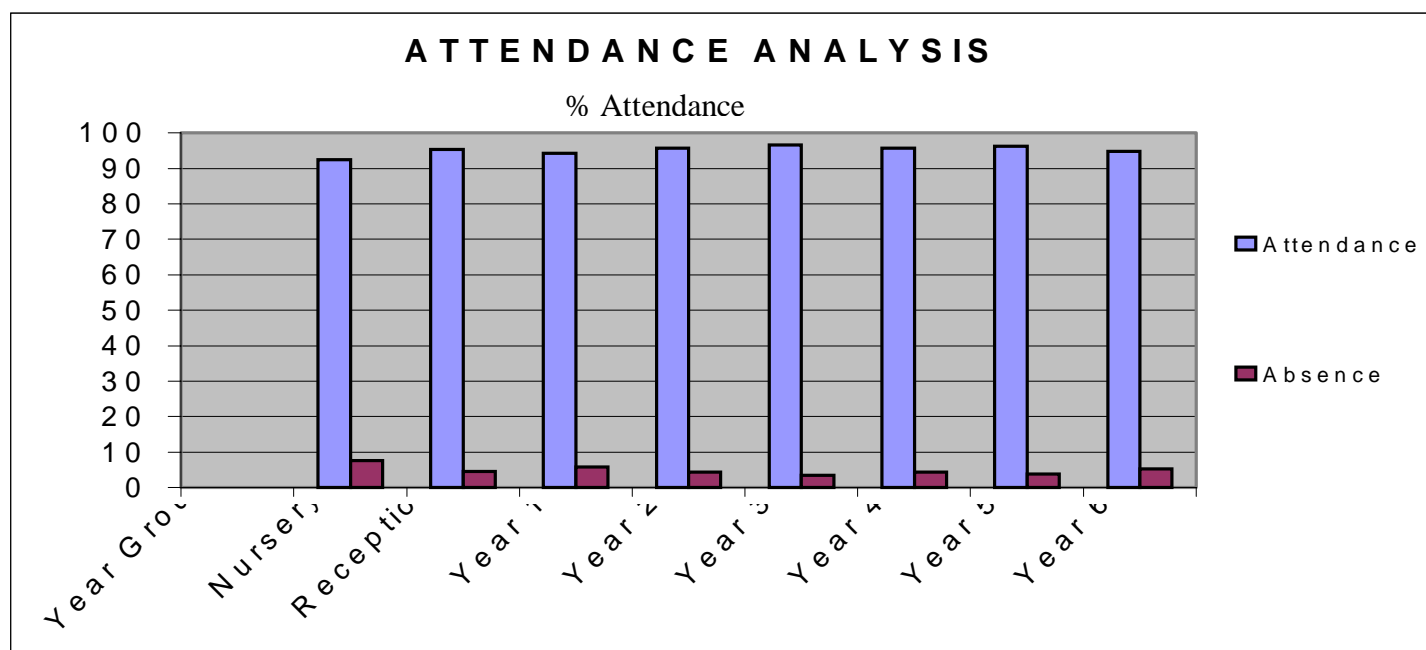
There were seven appeals against Governors' refusal of places in the main school, none of which were upheld. Our premises are conducive to the admission of disabled pupils who continue to be catered for within the school's admissions criteria and admissions processes.

For the academic year 2000/2001 there were 66 qualifying applicants interviewed for 52 nursery places and 101 qualifying applicants interviewed for 60 places in reception.

The total number of children on roll at the close of the 2000/2001 academic year was 473.

The Governors are pleased to inform you that the percentage of pupil attendance in the academic year 2000/2001 was over 92% in all year groups. The percentage of pupil sessions (half days) missed through unauthorised absences and the percentage of pupil sessions (half days) missed through authorised absences were both minimal. Governors will continue to monitor attendance statistics.

ATTENDANCE ANALYSIS (%)			
2000-2001			
Year Group	Attend	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences
Nursery	92.38	7.62	0
Reception	96.53	3.47	0
Year 1	94.25	6.12	0
Year 2	95.68	4.35	0
Year 3	96.56	2.50	0
Year 4	95.65	4.47	0
Year 5	96.22	3.78	0
Year 6	94.78	5.22	0



SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER DATA

School	01	00	99	98	97	96	95	94	93	92	91	90	89
Bishop Thomas Grant	2	1	5	6	9	8	6	8	12	2	8	5	5
Bonus Pastor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Clapham High	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coloma	8	8	4	5	6	4	5	4	6	9	6	11	6
De Stafford	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Follys End Christian	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hayes	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harris CTC	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Greycoat	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ingram/Selhurst Boys	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
The John Fisher	4	7	3	9	7	4	2	4	7	2	5	5	1
John Rigby	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
The London Oratory	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manhood	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norbury Manor	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
St. Josephs	13	14	11	10	10	13	5	2	1	6	5	4	10
St. Mary's	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	0
St. Philomena's	12	8	11	13	6	7	7	7	2	1	0	0	3
Thomas More	7	6	2	8	9	4	6	5	0	1	3	3	1
Tiffins	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trinity	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Virgo Fidelis	5	8	13	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wallington Boys	5	1	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wallington Girls	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Westwood	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whitgift	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Wilsons	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wimbledon College	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abroad/elsewhere	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	1

The above statistics reflect both the range of secondary schools available to our pupils and parental preference in choosing an appropriate secondary school for their child. The Governors appreciate the fact that the majority of parents continue to support our Catholic Secondary schools when making their choice. We would like to wish all our pupils happiness in the school to which they have been admitted.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Following Mrs Winkworth's departure from the staff we are pleased to be able to report that Mrs Day has agreed to take on the role of RE Coordinator initially for the forthcoming academic year. She has already made an impact with this curriculum area through the reorganisation of our RE resources and has now attended her first meeting of RE Coordinators in Croydon Catholic schools.

Mrs Day's previous responsibility as Geography Coordinator has been assumed by Miss Berry. Mrs Lawlor has taken on History coordination following a change of responsibility for Miss McGillicuddy who is concentrating on the development of Drama within the school. Her pre-school drama sessions are very well attended and go from strength to strength. She is currently discussing links with the Brit School to develop these sessions further.

Due to a range of circumstances the Governors' Curriculum Committee has met less frequently this year. Work has, however, gone on behind the scenes.

We continue to develop our status as a Beacon School. This has involved a number of visits and classroom observations from neighbouring schools. We have also been approached by two secondary schools in regard to bids they are making for Modern Language specialism and of development of Primary ICT links.

The management of Assessment has developed as a strength throughout the school. Mrs Day has commenced analysis work of external assessment data which will link with our internal procedures. The Governors are firm in their resolve to maintain the school's already identified well-balanced curriculum within National Curriculum requirements. The school has always been able to accommodate all changes with minimal disruption. Priority clearly lies with the core subjects of Religious Education, Mathematics, Literacy and ICT. Foundation subject teaching

will be linked wherever possible to the core subjects and a limited amount of topic work will continue to be maintained to meet the requirements that cannot be accommodated within core subject areas.

The academic year saw the introduction of the updated Diocesan recommended Religious Education Scheme "Here I Am". This has seen the school move to a whole school cyclical topic approach for religious education with content being appropriate for respective year groups. A recent visit including lesson observations by a Diocesan Adviser for Religious Education has confirmed the implementation of the scheme has gone very well. Mrs Day in her new role as RE Coordinator is overseeing the progress of the area and with the link Governor for RE will continue to monitor this curriculum area over the next academic year.

Two very successful evenings were held for parents during the year on the topics of Drugs Education and PHSE and on the areas of Literacy and Numeracy. Parents appeared to welcome these sessions and it is hoped to run other such evenings in the future.

Whilst there are many aspects to school life the Governors are at one with staff and parents in recognising the words of Bishop Tripp in stressing the importance of "the people" who make up the school community. Curriculum content then follows closely in order of importance. It is with some pride then that the Governors commend the school on their receipt within the year of three accolades with the award of Beacon Status, Basic Skills Quality Mark, and DfES Improvement Award. These awards all link directly to curriculum success and we will continue to support the staff in maintaining and developing such a strong curriculum base. We would once again wish to record thanks to the school's attached inspector, Mrs Janet Miles, for her advice and ongoing support.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The Governors have continued to recognise the range of Special Needs provision required in order to appropriately meet the needs of individual pupils. Parents will be aware that Mrs Tuck resigned her post as of 31st August 2001 following a family relocation. The Governors would record their appreciation to her for her exceptional work during her time at St James the Great. Prior to her departure she secured all the necessary documentation and made arrangements to ensure special needs provision was suitably maintained through the Autumn Term 2001. These arrangements have enabled the Governors to organise the appointment of a new Special Educational Needs Coordinator as soon as possible. This the Governors are currently undertaking.

Targeted support will continue to be directed to the Early Years. Children will be supported in class, through withdrawal, and by outside

agencies including the Nursery Support Team, SENSS, Hearing Service, The Catholic Children's Society, Art Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Support, Literacy Centre and Child Guidance Clinic.

Parents have continued to support a daily reading programme.

The Educational Psychologist visits once a month to assess children and meet parents. Individual Education Plans have been reviewed twice a year, or more frequently, if required, with parents.

The Governors see it as a priority to maintain budgetary support at current levels at least in the medium term. We would also like to record our appreciation to Mrs Macadam, the nominated Governor for special needs, for her continued interest in this area and for her input at Governor level on Special Needs issues.



A Beacon School of Excellence

NATIONAL CURRICULUM RESULTS 2000/2001 –
Percentages of pupils achieving each level

National Curriculum Assessment 2001 Key Stage 1

Key Stage One Test Result Summary (Percentage of pupils at each level)

Subject	Mathematics			Science		
	<2	2	3	<2	2	3
School	3	35	62	3	55	42
Local(2000)	9	66	25			
National (2000)	10	65	25			

Subject	ENGLISH								
	Comprehension			Writing			Spelling		
Level	<2	2	3	<2	2	3	<2	2	3
School	0	36	59	0	69	26	2	43	50
Local(2000)	7	60	23	4	78	8			
National (2000)	18	54	28	15	76	9	28	50	22

Key Stage Two Test Result Summary (Percentage of pupils at each level)

Subject	English			Mathematics			Science		
	<4	4	5	<4	4	5	<4	4	5
School	7	53	40	6	41	53	3	57	40
Local(2000)	26	46	28	29	47	24	5	60	35
National (2000)	25	46	29	29	47	24	26	50	34

TEACHER ASSESSMENT: Percentage of Pupils Achieving each level

	W	1	2	3	4+	Dis.	Abs.	U
Speaking and Listening	0	0	50	45	0	0	0	
Reading	0	0	41	53	0	0	0	
Writing	0	0	59	36	0	0	0	
Mathematics	0	0	41	53	0			0
Science	0	0	53	41	0			0

TASK AND TEST RESULTS: Percentage at each level

	W	1	2	2C	2B	2A	3	4+	Dis.	Abs.
Reading Task	0	0		5	12	19			0	0
Reading Comp. Tests				0	10	26	59	0	0	5
Writing Task	0	0		10	38	21	26	0	0	5
Spelling Test			45				50		0	0
Mathematics	0	0		0	10	22	62	0	0	5

National figures for National Curriculum Assessment 2000 Key Stage 1TEACHER ASSESSMENT: Percentage at each level

	W	1	2	3	4+	Dis.	Abs.	U
English	3	13	63	21	0			0
Speaking and Listening	2	12	63	23	0	0	0	
Reading	3	13	55	28	0	0	0	
Writing	5	13	70	12	0	0	0	
Mathematics	2	10	63	25	0			0
Science	2	10	66	22	0			0

TASK AND TEST RESULTS: Percentage at each level

	X	W	L	1	2	2C	2B	2A	3	4+	Dis.	Abs.
Reading Task		3		13	56	16	21	19			0	0
Reading Comp Tests	16		2		54	16	21	17	28	0	0	0
Writing		5		10	76	28	30	18	9	0	0	0
Spelling	14		14		50				22		0	0
Mathematics		2		7	65	17	23	25	25	0	0	0

In line with national requirements the Governors have set targets for achievement at both key stages. These are detailed below.

National Curriculum Assessment 2001 Key Stage 2

These tables show the percentages of Year 6 children achieving each level in 2001. N.B. The figures may not total 100% because of rounding.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT: Percentage at each level

	Dis.	Abs.	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	4+
English	0	0	0	0	0	6	52	42	0	94
Reading	0	0	0	0	0	6	50	44	0	94
Writing	0	0	0	0	0	15	55	31	0	85
Speaking and Listening	0	0	0	0	3	6	56	34	0	90
Mathematics	0	0	0	0	0	8	44	48	5	92
Science	0	0	0	0	0	6	48	45	0	94

TASK AND TEST RESULTS: Percentage at each level

	Dis.	Abs.	B	N	2	3	4	5	6	4+
English	0	0	0	0	0	7	53	40	0	92
Reading	0	0	0	0	0	8	35	56		92
Writing	0	0	0	0	0	19	66	15		81
Mathematics	0	0	0	0	0	6	41	53	0	94
Science	0	0	0	0	0	3	57	40	0	97

National figures for National Curriculum Assessment 2000 Key Stage 2

TEACHER ASSESSMENT: Percentage at each level

	Dis.	Abs.	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	4+
English	0	0	1	1	5	23	49	22	0	70
Mathematics	0	0	0	1	5	22	48	23	0	72
Science	0	0	0	1	3	17	52	27	0	79

TASK AND TEST RESULTS: Percentage at each level

	Dis.	Abs.	B	N	2	3	4	5	6	4+
English	0	2	3	2	1	17	46	29	0	75
Mathematics	0	2	3	2	1	21	47	24	0	72
Science	0	2	2	1	0	11	50	34	0	85

0% represents some pupils but less than 0.5%

Key: D- Disapplied; W - Working towards; Abs. – Absent; U – unable to assess due to absence or disapplication; X – not required to be entered for reading comprehension test or spelling test, or not awarded a level from reading task because Level 3 achieved in reading comprehension test; L – statutorily entered, but did not obtain at least Level 2; 0 represents some pupils, but less than 0.5%. B represents pupils who were assessed by teacher assessment only. N represents pupils who failed to register a level for reasons other than absence.

Year Six having lunch in St. James' Park



THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The Governors continue to be committed to maintaining a good working environment for staff and pupils. Responsibility for this is largely delegated to the Governors Buildings, Health and Safety Committee. This committee meets regularly and deals with all premises issues including Health and Safety checks and liaison with the staff nominated Health and Safety Representative.

The Governors and school continue to be appreciative of the maintenance work and premises tasks undertaken by the school Site Manager, Mr Dodd.

We are pleased to report the successful completion of the flat to pitched roof conversion noted in our last report.

Security issues continue to be ongoing agenda items. Additional car park lighting has been installed and obstruction of one light by a tree has been resolved by the cutting back of the tree concerned. We will now monitor the situation to see whether it has been resolved by these improvements.

Sadly out of hours vandalism to the site remains an ongoing problem. With nine broken windows needing replacement over the summer break and some incidents of graffiti our policy remains to action repairs as a matter of urgency following such incidents in order to maintain site quality.

The focus of other works this year have been linked to the school's planned 25th Anniversary celebrations at the start of the 2001/2002 academic year. This has centred on the development of an Oratory area, relocation of the school's medical room and the start of a programme of external and internal redecoration. At the time of production of this report the works are well underway and should further serve to enhance the school environment.

We can report that the projects to replace the furniture in Year One and the construction of a chair store off of the main hall were both completed in line with last year's report. In addition we were able to replace the furniture in year six with lift lid type desks. These have proved very successful and provide a fitting classroom environment for year six pupils in line with the school's stated aim to prepare the children for secondary transfer.

Thanks to funding from the Friends Association of St James the Great it was possible to refurbish and extend the play equipment available to both infant and junior pupils in addition to providing fixed equipment for our Nursery pupils. This enhanced provision has been both well received and used by the children.

The reported "hoped for" development of sporting facilities, an external garden and pond area and provision of covered areas all remain aspirations and will remain on the "to do" list. The next development hoped for is the provision of a curriculum cooking area for our Nursery pupils. It is very much a case of "watch this space". Mr Rossi Gonsalves who chairs the Governors' Buildings, Health and Safety Committee is to be commended for ensuring that the premises aspect to school life retains a high priority.

We would again wish to acknowledge the work of the school's excellent team of cleaners whose hard work and dedication to their job assists greatly in maintaining a high standard of cleanliness around the school.

It remains the aim of the buildings health and safety committee to secure the best environment and conditions for pupils and staff.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

WE remain of the view that it is appropriate for the school to be the subject of a formal annual external audit and we continue to build funding for this into the school's budget. With a budget in excess of £1,000,000 external scrutiny is in our view part of sound management procedures. Messrs Davis, Burton, Williams and Company raised only minor issues as a result of their audit and these have been actioned. Their view that the school continues to be soundly managed is a compliment to the Headteacher and the school's Senior Administration Officer (Finance), Mrs Pat Spinks, in addition to the Governors' Finance, Staffing and Salaries Committee who provide excellent background input. We would record our appreciation to Mrs Elaine Williamson who chairs this Committee for her availability to the school on a more regular basis to offer support as required.

We are pleased to include the Income and Expenditure Statement from our Audit report for the information of parents.

The school has now moved out of post Grant Maintained transitional funding. It is clear that

whilst some additional central Government funding is reaching schools, at Local Authority level there continues to be considerable pressure to just maintain current expenditure levels for education. Any increases very often do not cover inflation so we remain cautious in regard to future funding levels. We continue, therefore, to target spending in line with priorities identified within the school's strategic management planning.

We are able to confirm that the move to in house catering reported last year has proved successful. In order to maintain standards a small increase in meal price will have to be made in the new academic year. We are confident, however, that we will be able to maintain our excellent school meals service at a meal price below the current Croydon level. We would extend our thanks to our Catering Manageress, Mrs Sheila Williams, and her staff for all their hard work in making this service a success. We very much hope parents will continue to support the service which is dependent upon take up.

Year Five studying the Victorians



St James the Great R.C. (G.M.) Primary & Nursery School

Income and expenditure account for year to 31 March 2001

	2000/2001	1999 / 2000	1998 / 1999
INCOME			
Annual Maintenance Grant	871,074	829,792	842,928
Special Purpose Grant	86,278	29,339	45,198
Capital Grants: Named Projects	12,579	62,421	0
Formula Allocation	9,471	5,400	15,490
Other FAS Grants	0	0	0
Other Government Grants	27,997	19,011	16,618
Special Facility Income	0	0	0
Other Income	132,390	156,513	108,586
TOTAL INCOME	1,139,789	1,102,476	1,028,820
EXPENDITURE			
Staff Costs	834,531	754,449	732,926
Maintenance of Premises	11,475	13,623	17,166
Other Occupancy Costs	25,266	26,689	24,252
Educational Supplies and Services	135,639	96,777	101,709
Other Supplies and Services	51,083	82,454	92,808
Furniture and Equipment	5,466	13,385	5,406
Capital Grant Related: Named Projects	12,579	62,421	0
Formula Allocation	9,471	5,400	15,490
Capital Expenditure other than Capital Grant	58,635	26,034	18,856
Special Facility Costs	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,144,145	1,081,232	1,008,613
Excess of Income over Expenditure	(4,356)	21,244	20,207
Balance B/F From Previous Year	44,146	22,902	2,695
Surplus / (Deficit) C/F to Next Year	39,790	44,146	22,902
Surplus / (Deficit) Attributable to			
General Purpose Fund	4,898	8,298	8,430
Premises Related Fund	10,000	35,848	14,472
Other Funds	24,892	0	0
CUMULATIVE SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	39,790	44,146	22,902
Statement of Financial Position			
Year-end 31 March 2001 (Balance Sheet)			
Current Assets			
Stocks	743	265	822
Debtors	24,000	16,636	4,531
Prepayments	17,897	84,004	17,339
Investments	0	0	0
Cash in office, at bank, and deposits	150,088	124,394	84,790
	192,728	225,299	107,482
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	121,650	127,652	41,699
Accruals and Deferred Income	31,288	53,501	42,881
	152,938	181,153	84,580
Net Current Assets (liabilities)			
General Purpose Fund	4,898	8,298	8,430
Premise Related Fund	10,000	35,848	14,472
Other Funds	24,892	0	0
	39,790	44,146	22,902

LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Links with the community continue to be of considerable importance to the school. In addition to the inbuilt school and parish communities the Governors, staff and pupils continue to recognise the importance of involvement in both the local community and the concept of a "World Community". To this end the school works hard to promote the ethos of the school community which Ofsted identified as being of notable importance to our pupils. The school is regularly involved with its parish communities through services in the Parish churches and notices within the Parish newsletters. Chaplaincy visits are well developed and highly appreciated. The school has supported a range of charities over the year including CAFOD, The Catholic Children's Society, Help a London Child, Blue Peter, Comic Relief and the Confraternity of St. James. The pupils are very pro-active in identifying many of these worthy causes and in fundraising projects. Our pupils are encouraged to take part in many local sporting and extra curricular events which see them participating in in-school and out of school events. Sport continues to be a strength which is reflected in many notable achievements over the year. The school was

again commended for its participation in the Croydon Infant and Junior Dance and Music Festivals.

The school continues to welcome a range of speakers and visitors. These cover a wide variety of topics, workshops, theatrical performances and demonstrations designed to enhance curriculum and leisure interests for our pupils. In addition we host LEA, Headteacher and Croydon Catholic School events. P.C. Sheila Martin continues to visit the school and she has undertaken an educational programme over the year with all classes.

The school choir was invited to lead the singing at the Annual Good Shepherd Mass at Southwark Cathedral and were pleased to be given a guided tour of a display depicting the history of the Cathedral by the Archbishop.

In addition the achievements of the school received coverage in the local and Diocesan press. These reports can be viewed in the "In the News" book located on top of the school trophy cabinet in the main reception area.

THE FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The Friends Association continues to finance the running of the school coach and mini bus transport. This year saw the purchase of a replacement coach which we are hoping to have painted in the school livery during the next academic year. The mini bus purchased by the Association for the school is nearing three years old and the purchase finance will have been settled. Consideration is being given to the replacement of this vehicle in order to maximise the second-hand value of the vehicle, thereby preventing the need to fund the major cost of purchasing a new vehicle from scratch. This issue will be kept under review.

Some £9,000 was allocated to the school as a 50% contribution towards the cost of

refurbishment, extension and Nursery installation of external play equipment. Without this support the school would not have been able to carry out these works.

Although the primary aim of the Friends Association is to raise funds to support the school, the events we run have a great social value adding to the special community spirit that has developed over the years at St James the Great School. The Friends Association have now been granted a renewal of their club licence facilities that negates the need to obtain individual licences for each event at which alcohol is served. The next renewal will provide a 10 year licence.

The Friends Association Committee thanks everyone associated with the school community for their continued support.

OTHER ITEMS

1. **DONATIONS** - The school has received donations over the year that include; books donated by the Year Six leavers and a range of items obtained through the various product promotions for schools. In addition past and present parents have been very supportive of the fund raising drive for the school's new Oratory. The Friends Association likewise make donations to the school for agreed purposes.

2. **PUPIL BEHAVIOUR** - Pupil behaviour was commended in the school's OFSTED inspection report. Neither the school nor the Governors are complacent in regard to behaviour issues, which can in turn become issues of bullying if not promptly dealt with. There is a clear behaviour policy and pupils are very clear about the courses of action available to them if difficulties arise. Each incident will always be dealt with sensitively according to the individual circumstances. If an issue is referred to the Headteacher and the school's disciplinary strategies have been exhausted, parents will be called in to discuss the matter. Parents are urged to advise the school of any concerns they may have at any time in order that issues that may arise can be dealt with promptly and efficiently.

3. **EDUCATIONAL VISITS** – These continue to make a valuable input into the curriculum in addition to providing recreational opportunities. The year saw the maintenance of the now traditional residential visits in addition to a wide range of day visits, workshops etc.

2001/2002 TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2001

OPEN: Tuesday 4 September
OPEN: Monday 29 October

CLOSE: Friday 19 October (Half Term)
CLOSE: Thursday 20 December

SPRING TERM 2002

OPEN: Monday 7 January
OPEN: Monday 18 February

CLOSE: Friday 8 February (Half Term)
CLOSE: Thursday 28 March

SUMMER TERM 2002

OPEN: Wednesday 10 April

OPEN: Monday 10 June

CLOSE: Monday 6 May (occasional holiday)
CLOSE Friday 31 May
CLOSE Friday 19 July

IN-SERVICE DAYS (school closed for pupils)

1. 3 September 2001
3. 31 May 2002
5. TBA

2. 8 February 2002
4. 17 June 2002

Year Four at Horton Kirby Education Centre

